Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 104012 ORIGIN EA-06

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R 062236Z MAY 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO USLO PEKING AMCONSUL HONG KONG

SECRETSTATE 104012

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC BBAK PFOR PDIP CH US

SUBJECT: EA/PRCM WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. COMMITTEE FOR SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION WITH THE PRC (CONFIDENTIAL)

IN PREPARATION FOR A JUNE VISIT TO THE PRC BY THE CSC BOARD MEMBERS, CSC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARY BULLOCK AND NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES PRESIDENT PHILIP HANDLER (WHO WILL HEAD THE DELEGATION) LUNCHED WITH AMBASSADOR HUANG CHEN MAY 4. DESPITE OUR OBJECTIONS, DR. HANDLER PROVIDED THE AMBASSADOR WITH A LETTER OUTLINING AN OVERLY-AMBITIOUS PROPOSAL FOR 1978-79 EXCHANGES WITH THE PRC. THERE ARE TWO ISSUES INVOLVED: FIRST, CSC DID NOT CONSULT WITH US ADEQUATELY PRIOR TO DECIDING TO PROVIDE HUANG WITH THE LETTER SECRET

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AND, SECONDLY, THE OVERLY-AMBITIOUS PROPOSALS INVITE A PRC TURNDOWN WHILE A MORE MODEST ATTEMPT AT EXPANSION WOULD HAVE HAD GREATER CHANCE OF SUCCESS. WE ARE WORKING WITH CU IN AN ATTEMPT TO ENCOURAGE CSC, WHEN THE HANDLER DELEGATION IS IN PEKING NEXT MONTH, TO PULL SOMEWHAT BACK FROM THE INITIAL PROPOSALS.

2. NEW NATIONAL COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR US-CHINA TRADE, AFTER SOME SEARCHING (THREE CANDIDATES REPORTEDLY TURNED DOWN JOB OFFERS), HAS SELECTED A REPLACEMENT FOR CURRENT VICE PRESIDENT MEL SEARLS, WHO WILL RETURN TO EXXON IN JULY. THE NEW VICE PRESIDENT IS STANLEY YOUNG, CURRENTLY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN HONG KONG.

3. PRM 24 PART III (SECRET)

THE FIRST-STAGE PARTIAL DRAFTS OF PRM 24 PART III (TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER) HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. PM IS CHAIRING AN INTERAGENCY MEETING TO DISCUSS THEM MAY 6. AN INTERAGENCY GROUP WILL THEN BEGIN WORK ON A UNIFIED DRAFT. FIRST DRAFTS OF PRM 24 PART I WILL BE COMPLETED THIS WEEKEND.

4. PRCLO ACTIVITY (UNCLASSIFIED)

PRCLO COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR CHANG TSIEN-HUA AND THREE SUBORDINATES VISITED ARMCO STEEL COMPANY FACILITIES IN HOUSTON AND GAINSVILLE, TEXAS AND IN MIDDLETOWN, OHIO MAY 1-3. THE GROUP TRAVELED ON ARMCO PRIVATE AIRCRAFT.

PRCLO CONSULAR OFFICER CHI LI-TE AND CHANG CHIH-HSIANG, WHO HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM, ARE RETURNING SECRET

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TO THE PRC MAY 7. CHI WILL BE RETURNING TO PRCLO AFTER HOME LEAVE BUT CHANG AND HIS WIFE HAVE COMPLETED THEIR ASSIGNMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

5. SENATOR SPARKMAN REQUEST FOR NIXON MEMCON (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

WE HAVE ACTION ON A LETTER FROM SFRC CHAIRMAN SPARKMAN ASKING THE SECRETARY TO PROVIDE A COPY OF THE ALLEGED MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION--"IF IT EXISTS"--REGARDING A NIXON "PROMISE" TO CHOU EN-LAI TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS DURING HIS SECOND TERM.
CHRISTOPHER

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